



## **Criteria and Process for Naming the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency**

**Developed by the National Emergency Management Association  
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### **Nomination and Confirmation Process for FEMA Administrator**

- The Administrator of FEMA should be a fixed term appointment for not less than five years (as is the FBI Director in the Department of Justice for example).
- Regardless of where FEMA is located in the federal government organizational structure, the FEMA Administrator should have a direct report to the President of the United States.
- The President should continue to nominate and the Senate confirm the Administrator of FEMA. Congress should scrutinize the nomination to ensure the appointed individual meets established criteria.
- A vetting process should be established that includes a role for input by emergency management constituent groups (using the judicial nomination process and rating by the American Bar Association as an example).

### **Recommended FEMA Administrator Qualifications, Knowledge, Expertise**

- Emergency management or similar related career at the federal, state or local government level.
- Executive level management experience, governmental administration and budgeting.
- Understanding of fundamental principles of population protection; disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery; command and control.
- Understanding of legislative process.
- Demonstrated leadership; demonstrated ability to exert authority and execute decisions in crisis situations.